Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 JAKART 09459 142020Z ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 HA-05 INR-10 SS-15

-----027782 151739Z/50L

R 140614Z JUL 78 FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 156 INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

CONFIDENTIAL JAKARTA 9459

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PBPR, ID

SUBJECT: INVITATION FOR US OFFICIAL TO VISIT EAST TIMOR

REF: (A) STATE 175685; (B) JAKARTA 9231

1. WHEN I INFORMED FOREIGN MINISTER MOCHTAR KUSUMAATMADJA AND GENERAL MURDANI OF OUR WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT AN INVITATATION TO ACCOMPANY PRESIDENT SUHARTO TO EAST TIMOR IN ACCORDANCE REF A, BOTH NOTED THAT A TENTATIVE DECISION HAD BEEN TAKEN TO LIMIT INVITATIONS TO ASEAN AMBASSADORS. MURDANI'S OFFICE CONFIRMED THIS DECISION TODAY. THE REASON FOR LIMITING DIPLOMATIC PARTICIPATION AS SET FORTH BY GENERAL MURDANI'S OFFICE WAS PURELY LOGISTICAL. THE GOVERNOR'S HOUSE AND THE SMALL HOTEL IN DILI DO NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT ROOM FOR THE NUMBER OF INDONESIAN OFFICIALS AND DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVES WHO SEEMED LIKELY TO ACCEPT THE GOI INVITATION.

2. MOCHATAR MENTIONED THAT HE MIGHT LEAD A SECOND GROUP OF AMBASSADORS TO TIMOR LATER IN THE YEAR BEFORE UNGA CONVENES. I POINTED OUT THAT I WOULD SEEK WASHINGTON'S VIEWS IF AND WHEN ANOTHER INVITATION WERE EXTENDED.

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3. IN THE MEANTIME, THE CANADIAN AMBASSADOR RECEIVED HIS GOVERNMENT'S PERMISSION TOACCEPT A GOI INVITATION TO VISIT EAST TIMOR IN COMPANY OF OTHER WESTERN AMBASSADORS, WHICH HE BELIEVES WOULD COVER SUBSEQUENT TRIP MENTIONED BY MOCHTAR.

MASTERS

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